

Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of November 22, 2004

1. **Fall Tree Planting (All Wards):** The City fall planting was done this Tuesday and Wednesday (November 23 & 24). Approximately 30 large trees (2 to 2 1/2 inch caliper trees which are usually 9 to 12 feet tall) were planted in the City right-of-way. The species planted this fall were swamp white oak, red bud, and sugar maple. *(City Arborist)*
2. **Officers in-and-out of Training:** Ofc. Sean McGarvey has been released from field training and assigned to Squad 2 with Sgt. Mark Hammond; he has not been assigned a permanent beat. Ofc. Desiree Palmer has been released from field training to Squad 1 with Sgt. Richard Bowers, assigned to Beat W5. CPR recertification training, provided by Chief Jim Jarboe of the TPVFD, was presented to all civilian employees. Those needing full certification will be trained next Monday. Ofc. Kristian Pedersen attended a three-day undercover narcotics investigation training. *(Police)*
3. **Crime Reports (All Wards):** On November 23, about 6:50 p.m., an armed robbery was reported at an ATM in the 1100 block of University Blvd. (Ward 6). A man was hit and property taken by two black females, ages 20-30, one described as 5'8" , 200 lbs, who may have fled in a black Honda. Residents are reminded to avoid or exercise caution when using ATMs after dark. Several burglaries have been reported throughout the city, with no clear pattern. Residents are reminded that this season may reflect an increase in burglaries and to be watchful of strangers in neighborhoods and unoccupied homes. Care should be taken in securing a home against intrusion. *(Police)*
4. **Metropolitan Branch Trail (Ward 1):** The City received formal notification November 24 (today) that it has received a grant of \$29,747 from the National Recreational Trails Program for the Metropolitan Branch Trail (MBT). The funds, as requested in the application submitted in August, are to be used for additional landscaping along the trail and for the construction and installation of the proposed boardwalk. A total of \$109,747 has been secured for this second phase of the trail. *(Housing and Community Development)*
5. **Street Restoration (Ward 2):** Work continues on Central Avenue. Staff anticipates that the final asphalt surface coat will be applied early next week on Central between Jackson and Garland. *(Public Works)*
6. **Water Discharge Problem (Ward 2):** The City Engineer is aware of and working on solutions to the flowing water problem at the corner of Flower Avenue and Garland Avenue. The remedy will include installation of (or repair to) the underdrain to connect with the storm water inlet on the Flower Avenue Bridge. *(Public Works)*
7. **Maple Avenue Stormdrain Installation (Ward 1):** The final inlet installation should be completed before the end of next week. Once the project is completed, the City Engineer will work with the contractor to schedule the milling and paving of Maple

Avenue. It is still the goal of the City to have the street repaved before the winter.
(*Public Works*)

8. **\$100,000 Federal Grant (All Wards):** The office of Congressman Chris Van Hollen has informed the City of Takoma Park that a \$100,000 COPS grant has been earmarked for the Police Department in the recently approved federal appropriations bill. The City had requested funding for evidence processing and technology equipment improvements. Besides Congressman Van Hollen, staff from both Senator Sarbanes and Mikulski have been helpful in the City's efforts to obtain funds for the Police Department. Peter Kovar, of the Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee, has also been a terrific partner in this effort over the past three years. (*Community and Government Liaison*)

9. **Carroll Avenue Sidewalk Art Project (Ward 1):** The Review Committee for the Carroll Avenue Sidewalk Art Project will meet on Tuesday, November 30 to review the six proposals that have been submitted and to discuss how they wish to proceed. The committee is comprised of three Arts and Humanities Commission members (Alice Sims, Cynthia Mills, and Welmoed Wlaanstra) and Historic Takoma Board Member and HPC Commissioner, Caroline Alderson. Given the Committee's expressed concerns about long-term maintenance of the project, copies of the proposals have been forwarded to the City Engineer for review as well. (*City Manager*)